



# ***Daily Report***

## **Sub-Saharan Africa**

FBIS-AFR-91-038  
Tuesday  
26 February 1991

## FBIS 50th Anniversary Note

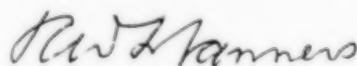
To Our Consumers:

This year the Foreign Broadcast Information Service observes its 50th anniversary.

The service, first called the Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service, was established in 1941 prior to the U.S. entry into World War II. At the time, a number of U.S. Government officials were concerned about the content of foreign radio broadcasts—a relatively new means of conveying information and propaganda across borders. On their advice, President Franklin D. Roosevelt in late February 1941 allotted money from his emergency fund to institute the recording, translating, transcribing, and analyzing of selected foreign broadcasts for the U.S. Government. During World War II the service demonstrated that monitoring was a fast, economical, and reliable way to follow overseas developments.

Today the Foreign Broadcast Information Service provides its consumers throughout the federal government, according to their diverse official interests, with information from a broad range of foreign public media. FBIS information also is available to readers outside of the government, through the National Technical Information Service. Objectivity, accuracy, and timeliness are our production watchwords.

We members of the current staff of FBIS extend our thanks to consumers for their interest in FBIS products. To past staffers we extend our thanks for helping the service reach this anniversary year. At the same time, we pledge our continued commitment to providing a useful information service.



R. W. Manners  
Director  
Foreign Broadcast Information Service

# Daily Report

## Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-91-038

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## Ethiopia

### EPRDF Rebels Issue Statement on Offensive

EA2502132091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Ethiopian People for Peace, Democracy and Freedom in Amharic 0400 GMT 25 Feb 91

[“Statement No.1” issued by the Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPRDF, General Council on 24 February; place not given]

[Excerpt] To the residents of Gonder town and its environs as well as the broad masses of Gojam who have lived under the ruthless Dergue oppression and exploitation and are about to be liberated by the EPRDF Army: There is no doubting the success of the large-scale offensive mounted by the heroic EPRDF for the total annihilation of the Dergue Army based in Gonder town and its environs as well as in the whole of Gojam, or that it will be victorious in its operation. Our heroic Army, which is fighting fiercely, will not restrain its arms until the enemy is defeated. It will liberate all the towns and countryside.

However, it is clear that as the operation continues it will be difficult at the same time to cover and control all the villages and small towns. Hence, there will be antipeople elements who will wish to use the opportunity to carry out looting with the aim of inflicting damage on the people’s property and resources, government institutions, work and school facilities, and similar sectors, before our Army is able to reach every area and calm the situation down alongside the people. Using this opportunity, there will also be a force that will operate to disrupt the life of the people and security. It is up to you, the broad masses, to secure and control this situation. [passage omitted]

[Issued by] The EPRDF General Council, on 24 February 1991.

### EPRDF Rebels Say ‘Major Town’ Captured

EA2602094091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0630 GMT 26 Feb 91

[Text] The heroic Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Democratic Front, EPRDF, took control of Bahir Dar town yesterday afternoon. Bahir Dar is one of the major Ethiopian towns, which has great military, economic, and political significance. The heroic EPRDF forces captured Bahir Dar yesterday afternoon, in line with their huge campaign entitled the Tewodros [former Ethiopian emperor] campaign, launched last Saturday, 23 February, and aimed at destroying Dergue forces in Gojam and Gonder as well as liberating these regions.

Earlier, the EPRDF forces, who penetrated into Gojam from southern Welo, gained control of Dejen and Bichena towns as well as some other Dergue military camps. In Hamusit in Gojam region they completely

destroyed the fourth mechanized brigade, which is the backbone of the 603d Army Division.

When the heroic EPRDF forces captured Bahir Dar yesterday afternoon, they also captured the Central Command of the 603d Army Division in the town and routed the remaining forces of that Army division.

In a statement it issued yesterday evening, the Dergue State Council accepted that the EPRDF offensive campaign was very dangerous. The EPRDF, for its part, has stated that this strategically important victorious offensive campaign will continue until Gojam and Gonder are completely liberated.

The EPRDF campaign won the support and participation of the local inhabitants. The inhabitants of Bahir Dar gave a rousing welcome to the heroic EPRDF forces.

### State Council Statement on Rebel Offensive

EA2502214091 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1726 GMT 25 Feb 91

[State Council statement issued in Addis Ababa on 25 February]

[Text] It will be recalled that repeated conspiracies have been carried out to disrupt Ethiopia’s unity, and as a result, to subject the people to poverty and backwardness. The conspiracies have been carried out with the support and participation of external anti-Ethiopian forces.

The anti-Ethiopian forces have used the northern part of Ethiopia since time immemorial to disrupt our peace and particularly to dismember Eritrea from the rest of Ethiopia. It is very clear to all patriotic Ethiopians how dangerous the anti-Ethiopia conspiracies in the north have been. The Ethiopian people have consequently taken stern measures to strengthen the revolutionary army and fight side by side with it. As a result of this support from the people, there was a time at which the Sha’biyyah [Eritrean People’s Liberation Front, EPLF] was on the brink of collapse. However, this bandit group was revived with the support of external enemies, who do not want to see the Ethiopian people progress, and it continued with its atrocious activity of dismantling Ethiopia. To further its evil aim, the bandit group has been conspiring to divide the people in the hinterland on a tribal and religious basis. To carry out this anti-Ethiopia activity, it has been recruiting, organizing, and training traitors and arming them with weapons obtained from external forces. In this manner, it has been fighting the Ethiopian people and destroying their property.

The main anti-popular force created by the EPLF, and which is out to destroy the country and disrupt peace, is the Weyane [Tigray People’s Liberation Front, TPLF]. Since it was organized by the EPLF, the TPLF has been disrupting the peace of the Tigray people and driving them to untold miseries. The TPLF did not stop there. It



spread this banditry and invasionary activity to the neighboring administrative areas and is carrying out its destructive mission. The people in these areas are witnessing atrocities, lootings, and agony committed by this bandit group.

In their coordinated invasion, the bandits have subjected the people of northern Ethiopia to agonizing atrocities, poverty, and disease. In addition, their indiscriminate burning of unarmed peaceful civilians, including children, the elderly, and women last year in Asosa, revealed their real character.

On the other hand, the government has made many peace efforts to meet the responsibility given to it by the people. The government has been making these efforts toward a peaceful resolution of the problem with great patience and goodwill. To make these efforts successful, the government, in accordance with the National Shengo resolutions, held peace talks in Atlanta and Nairobi with the EPLF and in Rome with the TPLF. Although the government tried to resolve the problem in these peace talks, the efforts were in vain due to the intransigence of the bandit groups. To add insult to injury, the bandit groups used the peace talks for propaganda purposes and to buy time as well as to intensify their invasion and accomplish their evil mission.

However, the government maintained its peace efforts and as a result, a fresh round of peace talks was convened with the mediation of the United States Government. Accordingly, the talks were held in Washington, D.C. and then postponed for another round. However, immediately after these peace talks ended, as usual, the bandits again opened a coordinated war on various fronts. By doing this, they have once again affirmed that they believe in war rather than peace.

In the current war, they are out to agonize, humiliate, and enslave the people of northern and southern Gonder, eastern and western Gojam, Metekel, northern and southern Welo, northern Shewa, and Aseb Autonomous Region. To end these atrocities, the revolutionary army, the militia, and armed citizens in the respective areas are engaged in a fierce and heroic struggle with the bandit enemies.

All Ethiopians who support the unity of the country should be mindful that the present invasion is dangerous and is aimed at the very existence of our country. In the current war the bandit enemies, by closing the Addis Ababa-Gojam-Gonder, Addis Ababa-Dese, and Addis Ababa-Aseb roads, as well as giving the strategic Red Sea area to their masters, are thereby rounding up the Ethiopian people and dismantling the country.

At this point in time, our revolutionary army and the militias are engaged in a fierce struggle to repulse the enemy from Bahir Dar town [northern Gojam]. Therefore, we call on the inhabitants of the north, including Eritrea and Tigray, the inhabitants of northern and southern Gonder, eastern and western Gojam, Metekel, northern and southern Welo, northern Shewa and Aseb

Autonomous Region, to rise up against the enemies, as you have already proven yourselves capable of doing, and to destroy the dangerous enemies who are out to dismantle the country and deny your very existence. Men, women, youths, and the elderly should fight side by side with the revolutionary army and the militia, selecting your own battle commanders and using the help of patriots and your political leaders in your respective areas. You should once again prove your heroism by chasing away the enemy through the terrain, which is more familiar to you. Raise your arms against your enemies immediately so as to crush the atrocities committed against your family, your relatives, your surroundings, and the country in general. Let history not blame you for not doing what you should have done.

The people in other regions of the country should also take action according to this statement with the command and coordination of the political bodies in your areas, and should get ready for any eventuality and call.

Ethiopia first!

### **Mengistu Reaffirms Support for Kuwaiti Struggle**

*EA2502203091 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 25 Feb 91*

[Text] Comrade President Mengistu Haile-Mariam has reaffirmed that Ethiopia strongly supports the struggle of the Kuwaiti people until the country's sovereignty is fully respected and their legitimate government restored. In a message he sent today to the emir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, on the occasion of Kuwait's national day, Comrade President Mengistu expressed the solidarity of the Ethiopian Government and people with the people of occupied Kuwait.

He went on to express his belief that the coordinated venture of liberating Kuwait will succeed in a short time, and further stated Ethiopia's desire to develop close relations with Kuwait. He took the same opportunity to wish Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah good health and peace and prosperity to the people of that country.

### **Somalia**

#### **Reportage on 28 February National Conference**

##### **Organization Committee Named**

*EA2102214491 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 21 Feb 91*

[Text] A report from the Prime Minister's Office said the members of the committee to organize the great conference to be held on 28 February in Mogadishu have been named. They are: Sharif Mokhtar Ibrahim, minister of the constitution; Abdirahman Elmi Egal, minister of agriculture; Abdirahman Osman Rajih, minister of oil and water, Mohamed Sheikh Mahamed Guled, minister of information; Mohamed Haji Salah [last name as heard], minister of fisheries; Mawlid Malim Mohamed,

deputy minister of constitutional affairs; and Ali Nur Daud, minister of state for the Presidency.

The report adds that the committee has been charged with the following duties: arranging transport, security, documentation, contact with internal and external news media, and contact with participants and observers of the conference as well as welcoming delegates, especially at the airport.

#### Ex-Premier Urges Attendance

EA2202124091 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali  
1700 GMT 21 Feb 91

[Excerpts] Mr. Mohamed Haji Ibrahim Egal, prime minister of the former civilian government, has added his voice to the calls of Somali veteran politicians for fronts that have struggled wherever they might be to come together at a great national conference to discuss the interests of Somali people. He stressed that the conference could be held wherever they chose, but that it must surely be held.

Addressing journalists of the national news media today, Mr. Mohamed Haji Ibrahim Egal added that he was very grateful to all the Somali fronts that had struggled to topple the fascist regime and to any other person who might have contributed to this end. He reiterated that all fronts and sections of Somali society were expected to meet at any venue and that they should not destroy the victory brought about by the people's struggle. He reminded the fronts that the Somali people were indebted to them for freeing them from the yoke they had borne for the past 21 years.

Mr. Egal called on the international community not to turn a blind eye to the grave situation in Somalia today. He appealed for the dispatch of emergency aid to the country to save those wounded in the wars waged against the evil regime. In his address, he appealed particularly to Western countries to pay special attention to the Somali people and not use the excuse that there is no recognized government in Somalia. Instead they should concede temporary recognition and full recognition later. He went on to appeal to the U.N. secretary general to help Somalia solve its problems since Somalia was a country that had come into existence due to U.N. [word indistinct].

He spoke in detail about the various stages of the Somali people's struggle to achieve unity. He said the problems encountered at the worst stage in the struggle for unity had now been overcome and that the country, today, was united. He said this was the best time.

He noted that in the BBC I Think program on Sunday, 17 February, a man expressed the view that Somalia was a country as incompatible as oil and water. On the contrary, Egal said, Somalia is a homogenous country without contradictions and remains as such. He praised the BBC for broadcasting the ideas of Somali people freely for 21 years. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, Mr. Mohamed Ibrahim Egal told all the armed fronts and the Somali people in general that now that the expected victory had been won, they should desist from all acts that might damage the nation's interests. He noted that it was absolutely essential to refrain from murder, revenge, and the like. He called on them to unite and, together, meet the challenge of upholding the dignity and honor of the Somali people.

#### SSDF To Attend Conference

EA2302212091 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali  
1700 GMT 23 Feb 91

[Text] A report reaching us today from Mudug Region says the Somali Salvation Democratic Front [SSDF] held a meeting in Gaalkacyo town from 14 to 19 February 1991. The meeting was attended by 97 people from Benadir [Mogadishu and its surroundings], Galgaduud, Mudug, Nugaal and Bari Regions, and Ceel Cad. [Word indistinct] intellectuals, clerics, and wise men were present. Also present was Mr. Mohamed Abshir Moussa, minister of planning and Juba Valley development.

The meeting discussed how to extricate the country from the 21 years of destruction caused by dictator Mohamed Siad Barre. During the meeting, it was agreed that preparations should be made to attend the forthcoming national conference that will be held on 28 February 1991; to revive the Islamic religion; to give top priority to the sovereignty and unity of the Somali people; and to restore peace to the country.

#### SNM Refuses To Participate

AB2502183291 Paris AFP in English 1004 GMT  
25 Feb 91

[Text] Djibouti, Feb 25 (AFP)—The Somali National Movement [SNM], Somalia's leading armed opposition movement in the north of the country, refused to attend a national reconciliation conference at Mogadishu on Thursday. SNM President Abdurahmane Ahmed Ali "Tour" said here over the weekend. The rebel leader said that his movement would not attend any conference and that a SNM delegation would not travel to the Somali capital.

Mr. Abdurahmane "Tour," visiting Djibouti, said the United Somali Congress (USC), which last month deposed President Mohamed Siad Barre, had made two mistakes: "Setting up a government that was termed provisional, and calling a national reconciliation conference without consulting the SNM."

Somalia's provisional president, Ali Mahdi Mohamed, appointed by the USC, has called on all armed movements and political groupings to attend the conference at Mogadishu on Thursday to discuss the future of the East African country.

### 'Risks of Secession' in North

AB2502184491 Paris AFP in English 1757 GMT  
25 Feb 91

[By Khaled Haidar]

[Text] Djibouti, Feb 25 (AFP)—The risks of secession in northern Somalia loomed on Monday as the head of the main armed rebel movement there ruled out attending the national reconciliation conference scheduled in the capital Mogadishu this Thursday.

Abdurahmane Ahmed Ali, leader of the Somali National Movement, stated his refusal during a weekend visit to this neighboring former French territory where he had a meeting with President Hassan Gouled Aptidon. He said the SNM would itself stage a congress in the port town of Berbera this week to consider revision of the act of union at independence in July 1960 joining former British Somaliland, the northern part of the country, to ex-Italian Somaliland in the south, where Mogadishu is located.

When President Mohamed Siad Barre was driven out at the end of January by the United Somali Congress [USC] after a month-long bloody siege, the SNM quickly took over the main northern towns it had been harassing for some years—Berbera, Burao and the regional capital Hargeisa.

Mr. Abdurahman, commonly known as "Tour" (hunchback), explained he was boycotting the Mogadishu parley because the USC had made two political mistakes: It had rapidly set up a government which it later termed 'provisional', and took the initiative for the reconciliation conference without consulting the SNM or associating it with the preparations.

The USC and the interim president it has named, Ali Mahdi Mohamed, are almost all of the Hawiye clan, while the SNM is exclusively Issaq, a northern people.

If the two sides failed to come together, all the signs were that the SNM would shortly proclaim a second Somali government to run the north province, political analysts here said. Such a policy would give it a basis equality for

negotiating a new constitution or a confederal system with the USC. The Berbera meeting would trace out the path, Mr. Abdurahmane said.

He conceded that "we are all Somalis and brethren in arms," but noted his SNM had taken up arms in 1981, while the USC only began fighting in November 1989.

Mr. Abdurahmane warned that the SNM would tolerate no other military front or movement in the north set up after the fall of Siad Barre. He was referring in particular to the breakaway United Somali Front formed by the Issa community and based on the ancient port of Zeila close to Djibouti. After a long alliance, the two groups were last week involved in fierce clashes.

### Refugees Report 'Anarchy,' Rebel Conflicts

EA2502172091 Nairobi KNA in English 1255 GMT  
25 Feb 91

[Text] Lamu, 25 February (KNA)—Another group of 231 Somali refugees on Sunday [24 February] arrived in Lamu after spending five days in the Indian Ocean waters. Comprising of men, women and children, the evidently hungry and distraught refugees were immediately taken to Lamu KANU [Kenya African National Union] hall where they would be accommodated temporarily while awaiting to be transported to Mombasa. The latest group arrived only hours after another one of 195 people had left the town on a bus they had hired on their way to Mombasa.

The refugees, who have come from Kismaayo, said there was a breakdown in general of lawlessness and anarchy in the country as the rebel groups which had united to topple President Siad Barre had turned on one another. They also reported cases of raping, looting and plunder.

Ever since war broke out in Somalia, thousands of refugees have passed through Lamu where wananchi [citizens] have been feeding them. And last week the local DC [district commissioner] thanked wishers for the gesture, which they said was in line with President Moi's call of being mindful of other people's welfare. He urged them to keep up the spirit.



### **Austria To Handle USSR Interests Section**

*MB2602130391 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1215 GMT 26 Feb 91*

[By political correspondent Pierre Claassen]

[Text] Cape Town February 26 SAPA—The first step towards normalising diplomatic relations between South Africa and the Soviet Union has been agreed to with the Government of Austria.

The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, announced on Tuesday [26 February] that Austrian embassies in Pretoria and Moscow would now accommodate interests sections of the two countries.

In a statement Mr Botha said it was intended that in the absence of full diplomatic relations, working contacts between the two countries would be maintained through these interests sections.

South Africa severed diplomatic relations with the USSR when it ordered the closure of its Pretoria embassy in [the] fifties.

When the Gorbachev era brought the Soviets into a peace-making role in the Cuban-backed Angolan conflict, tentative contacts with the South African negotiators in Brazzaville and later in Cairo started to warm relations between the countries.

These secretive contacts grew to open relations at top government level culminating in an official visit to the state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk, by the former Soviet foreign minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze during the Namibian independence celebrations.

### **Court Sets Aside ANC Member Treason Sentence**

*MB2602094691 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0932  
GMT 26 Feb 91*

[By Enid Rhodes]

[Text] Bloemfontein Feb 26 SAPA—The appeal court in Bloemfontein has found that the Transvaal Supreme Court had no legal jurisdiction to try Mr Ebrahim Ismail Ebrahim, a senior member of the African National Congress [ANC].

The appeal court on Tuesday [26 February] set aside his conviction and sentence of 20 years on charges of high treason and other offences under the Internal Security Act.

Mr Ebrahim was tried and convicted after Mr Justice H. Daniels in the Transvaal east and south-east local circuit court at Piet Retief on August 6, 1987 had dismissed an application of objection to the court's jurisdiction.

Mr Ebrahim objected to the court's competence to try him on the basis that he had been apprehended in, and abducted from, Swaziland on December 15, 1986. He contended that his subsequent transportation and arrest

and detention in South Africa was in breach of international law and was unlawful.

On Tuesday Mr Justice Steyn held that Mr Ebrahim's application should have succeeded. At the time he was entitled to the orders sought in terms of the first four paragraphs of the notice of motion.

These were to the effect that he was not amenable to the criminal jurisdiction of the court; that his apprehension and abduction in Swaziland and subsequent transportation to South Africa and purported arrest and detention was in breach of international law and wrongful and unlawful; that he had not been properly and lawfully arrested and arraigned before a court of competent jurisdiction for the purposes of trying him on the indictment proffered by the prosecution against Mr Ebrahim and two others; that he was entitled to be discharged from his imprisonment and detention, pending his trial on the indictment.

Mr Justice Steyn said circumstances changed drastically after the dismissal of the application. The trial proceeded and conviction and sentence followed. Mr Ebrahim should not have been tried.

But the trial and its consequences for Mr Ebrahim were fact. What was now important was to undo those consequences.

There would be no sense to make orders in terms of the notice of motion. At the appeal in September the parties had agreed that the appeal should be handled as though it was directed against the conviction and sentence. Mr Ebrahim had not sought an order for costs against the state in either the application or the appeal.

Mr Justice Joubert, who was acting chief justice when the appeal was heard, Mr Justice van Heerden, Mr Justice F. H. Grosskopf and Mr Justice Nicholas (acting judge of appeal) concurred.

Mr Justice Steyn said that in the light of the denials referred to in the judgment, it could be accepted that the South African Police were not involved at all in the abduction. It was, however, highly probable that Mr Ebrahim's abductors were "vehicles" of the South African state.

"Vehicles" in this sense referred to persons who acted on the instructions of one or other state institution, said the judge.

The manner in which Mr Ebrahim was abducted was strongly indicative of the involvement of such a body or organisation. The judge found that the abduction of Mr Ebrahim was clearly the work of one or other security branch, with the exception of the police.

In the determination of the effect which the abduction had on the judicial competence of the court to try Mr Ebrahim on the charges against him, Mr Justice Steyn,

said the question was not what the relevant rules of the international law were, but what the rules were in South African law.

It was necessary to investigate the common law in this regard. South African common law was still mainly Roman-Dutch law adapted to local circumstances.

The judge said no South African statute granted or withheld legal competence to the courts to try a person who had been abducted from another country and brought into South Africa.

It was clear that according to Roman-Dutch law a Netherlands court had no competence to try a person, who had been abducted from another jurisdiction by vehicles of state authority in power in the judicial area of such a court.

Mr Justice Steyn said that the manner and effect of arrest was ordered by section 39 of the Criminal Procedure Act. With reference to subsection (3), which deals with the effect of arrest, the judge said this did not deal with events before arrest and was not in conflict with the rules of Roman-Dutch law. There was also no decision of South African courts that these rules were not part of South African law.

With reference to the Supreme Court Act stipulations on jurisdiction, the judge said that the legislator had not intended in section 19(1)(a) to remove limitations that applied in common law to the court's jurisdiction in regard to criminal cases.

Such a limitation was to be found in the rule that, even if a crime was committed within the area of jurisdiction, the court had no legal competence to try the person if he had been abducted from another jurisdiction by vehicles of state authority.

The judge found that these rules of the Roman-Dutch law were still part of South African law.

It followed that the trial court, in accordance with valid common law, had no legal competence to judge the case against Mr Ebrahim. His conviction and sentence could, accordingly, not stand.

#### **Police Issue Unrest Report 24 Feb**

*MB2402102491 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
0854 GMT 24 Feb 91*

[Text] Pretoria Feb 24 SAPA—Following is the unrest report for the past 24 hours from the SAP [South African Police] directorate in Pretoria, filed at 9.30AM Sunday [24 February]:

Spokesman Major Ray Harraid said the police unrest report would no longer contain any references to the race of any victims unless it was a relevant matter. [Johannesburg SAPA in English at 1346 GMT on 25 February transmits the following "correction" to preceding sentence: "Due to a misunderstanding between a SAPA

reporter and Maj Ray Harraid of the public relations division of the SA [South African] Police, a report was issued that the police would in future no longer refer to race in unrest reports, unless relevant. The division has since pointed out that this was not so, and unrest reports would continue as they had been done over the past years. We wish to state clearly that there is no change in policy and we will continue to issue unrest reports as we have done over the years. On occasion, when we have omitted the race of the perpetrator and/or victim, journalists have contacted this office requesting information."]

Vosloosrus—On Saturday midnight, an unknown number of persons fired an unknown calibre firearm at a Casspir personnel carrier and the SAP personnel inside. No casualties were incurred, no arrests made and the motives were unknown. Police returned fire with bird-shot.

Jeppe, Doluter hostel—On Saturday night, unknown people stabbed a man in the chest with an assegai. He was seriously injured. No arrests were made and the motive for the attack was unknown.

Boiphatong, Vanderbijlpark—On Saturday night, 10 men attacked an 18 year old youth, apparently with the intent to kill him. Municipal police arrived and arrested all 10 people. The motives for the attack are unknown. Police are investigating.

Tembisa—An unknown person fired a 1,000-foot illuminating flare known to be used by parachutists. Police said it was not known where he obtained the flare. The man ran away. One woman and a child incurred slight abrasions when they fell to the ground due to the fright.

Police are investigating all these incidents.

#### **Pro-ANC Chief Assassinated in Natal 25 Feb**

*MB2602063691 Umtata Capital Radio in English  
0500 GMT 26 Feb 91*

[Text] A senior Natal political figure has been assassinated. Controversial Natal chief (Nhlabonzima Mapumulo) has become the latest victim of political violence. Carmel Rickard has more:

[Rickard] (Mapumulo) was shot outside his home in central Pietermaritzburg last night. He was taken to hospital but died on the way from shots in the back of the head and the shoulder. He had been national president of the pro ANC [African National Congress] organization of chiefs, the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa [Contralesa], and he and Contralesa were (?termed) by Zulu king Goodwill Zwelethini as being a spear in the heart of Zulu unity. (Mapumulo), whose traditional area is at Table Mountain outside Pietermaritzburg, used to have refugees from both sides in the Natal civil war living in peace on his land, but there have

been increasing problems in the area. His home was burned down, several attempts were made on his life and two weeks ago some residents in the area held a meeting demanding that he stay away from the district, but local Inkatha officials last night condemned his murder.

## 26 Feb Press Review of Current Issues, Problems

MB2602105591

[Editorial Report]

### THE CITIZEN

Gulf War 'Just'—Referring to South African reaction to the Gulf war, Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 25 February states in its page 6 editorial: "The White extremists do not forgive the United States for imposing sanctions on South Africa and for interfering in our affairs. The Muslims mistakenly regard it as their duty to support Saddam in what he has tried to turn into a religious war—Muslims against American infidels and their allies. And the Black radicals support all despotic leaders—Al-Qadhdhafi, Castro, 'Arafat and Saddam—who have supported them or sympathised with their cause." But THE CITIZEN believes the Gulf war "is a just one—and it is being carried out in terms of a United Nations resolution."

### THE STAR

Hit Squads 'Albatross' Around De Klerk Neck—"The albatross of an unfulfilled promise hangs ever more heavily around the neck of President de Klerk," notes a page 16 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 26 February. This albatross will not go away "until the State President does what he said he would do: expose the truth about hit squads." "In December 1989 President de Klerk warned that the country could not afford 'a climate of suspicion and mistrust at this moment in its history'. Fourteen months later, and after the sorry Harms Commission inquiry, the climate persists. Week by week, new reports and rumours arise. They flourish, and are believed, because everyone knows

that the truth about South Africa's murderous dirty-trick brigades is still being hidden. Why?"

### CAPE TIMES

Education Apartheid 'Flourishing'—"What is going on in South Africa when one government department closes down 47 [white] schools with 12,032 places while another government department is desperately seeking funds to build more [black] schools and employ more teachers?" asks a page 4 editorial in Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 22 February. Apart from being "a colossal waste of resources," it is also "an act of callous racial prejudice." "If this is the post-apartheid era, apartheid is flourishing on the ground for the ordinary people of South Africa."

### CITY PRESS

Paper Accepts Apartheid Apology—"Today we take the unprecedented step of speaking on behalf of 27 million blacks in accepting Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Leon Wessels' apology for what his government has done to us all these years," declares a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English on 24 February. CITY PRESS accepts the apology but, "however, we would be demeaning ourselves if we did not at the same time point out the hurt which this system has caused us." "So far he [President De Klerk] has not uttered a word of apology—and his silence is deafening. Dr Andries Treurnicht and his Conservative Party membership, who still won't admit their sins, must forever be reminded the day of reckoning is approaching."

Mandela Urged To Groom Successor—"When Nelson Mandela goes, who will hoist the ANC flag?" asks Khulu Sibiya in his "My Way" column on the same page. The "popular choice among whites and moderate blacks" is Thabo Mbeki, ANC international affairs head. "He could be singled out as the man who reassured white businessmen about the ANC's attitude towards indiscriminate nationalisation. Some believe the fiery Umkhonto weSizwe [Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing] leader Chris Hani will be a popular choice among the youth and workers." But "many others are waiting in the wings." Mandela, is "perhaps the only person who can prevent future disputes—by grooming his successor now."

**Angola****900-Man SWAPO Unit Said in Huila Province**

*MB2502195391 (Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern and Central Africa 1905 GMT 25 Feb 91*

[Text] Jamba, Sunday February 25 [dateline as received]—A 900-man SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] military unit is reported to be in the southwestern Angolan province of Huila.

Villagers contacted by the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] news agency said the 908 SWAPO soldiers are based in the Mbuela area of Huila Province where SWAPO had its bases during the Namibian war of independence.

Official sources in Jamba have meanwhile strongly condemned the presence of the SWAPO soldiers on Angolan territory pointing out that this is a flagrant violation of the New York agreement which paved the way for Namibian independence and the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

**FAPLA Said To Kill Two in Benguela Province**

*MB2602083991 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0523 GMT 26 Feb 91*

[Text] A group of hungry FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] soldiers attacked (Saluhanga) village, in Benguela Province on 20 February and stole some head of cattle from the local population.

Sources in (Saluhanga) report that two civilians were shot dead when they tried to recover the goods that were being stolen by the notorious FAPLA forces.

The people of (Saluhanga) village are revolted with these atrocities carried out by the executioners of the minority Luanda government led by Eduardo dos Santos, the supreme ringleader [words indistinct].

**MPLA in Lucapa Reportedly Wants War To End**

*MB2602084591 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0518 GMT 26 Feb 91*

[Text] The Lucapa-based MPLA-PT [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party] troops want an immediate end to this war that the Luanda government is waging against the Angolan people and refuse to go into combat operations against UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola].

Vorgan [Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel] learned from reliable local sources yesterday that the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] forces stationed in Lucapa are not willing to continue the war because they see peace in Angola as an irreversible reality.

Those sources also report that the FAPLA officers in Lucapa have been heard to say that the Angolan war is a senseless one that only benefits foreigners in general, and the San Tomean Eduardo dos Santos in particular.

**MPLA Police Said To Execute People in Bie**

*MB2602084391 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0521 GMT 26 Feb 91*

[Text] The Luanda regime's secret police continues to execute innocent civilians in Bie Province.

Last weekend, the people of Caculo, in the area of Catabola, discovered a mass grave filled with the bodies of innocent civilians executed by the MPLA-PT [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party] secret police in the jails of Catabola.

Vorgan's [Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel] Bie Province correspondent reports that the bodies of recently killed but no longer identifiable people were lying in the ditch. People in Caculo approached by the Vorgan reporters said those could be the bodies of the men, women, and children abducted from the area of Chissamba two weeks ago.

**Reportage on Visit of UN Aid Official****UN Recognizes 'Efforts'**

*MB2102202291 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1934 GMT 21 Feb 91*

[Text] Luanda, 21 Feb (ANGOP)—The United Nations recognizes the Angolan Government's efforts to find ways to implement the UN humanitarian aid program for drought- and war-affected people in central and southern Angola.

James Jonah, UN assistant secretary general for special political issues, regional cooperation, and decolonization said this shortly before his meeting with Angolan Planning Minister Fernando Franca van Dunem.

We appreciate and understand the Angolan Government's viewpoints, James Jonah said. He added that "our aim is to assist the drought-affected people in Angola."

**Hopes for Relief Program Resumption**

*MB2302082391 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 20 Feb 91*

[Text] The UN delegation that is in our country to hold far-reaching discussions on the emergency relief program was received this afternoon by Angolan Foreign Minister Pedro de Castro van Dunem Loy. On this occasion, James Jonah, UN under secretary general for special political issues, said that his main concern at present is to secure the resumption of relief operations, which have been suspended for more than a month. He said that the



international community and the UN secretary general await with great expectation the resumption of the relief program.

[Begin Jonah recording in English, fading into Portuguese translation] Frankly, the UN secretary general did not believe that the program would be suspended for such a long time. However, after a one-month interruption, he was so concerned that he felt the need to make a public appeal [words indistinct].

Personally, it was a [words indistinct] for me because I only assumed my post in January. So, I hope that the operations will resume shortly once we hold talks.

We believe that the suspension of the relief program is having a very serious impact on the lives of the people. The international donor community is beginning to have doubts. This could have an unfortunate impact. Accordingly, the international community wishes to find out whether it should allocate resources to the Angolan program.

A. you know, Africa and all developing nations are very worried about the fact that West Europe is more concerned with sending aid to East Europe. This creates some doubts. The response to the UN secretary general's appeal won't (?be forthcoming) as long as the relief operation is suspended. So, it is even more important that we try to resume the relief operations. [end recording]

#### Arm Supply Involvement Denied

MB2502203891 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese  
1918 GMT 25 Feb 91

[Text] Luanda, 25 Feb (ANGOP) —In Luanda on Saturday [23 February], the UN under secretary general for special political issues, regional cooperation, decolonization, and trusteeship denied reports that the United Nations was involved in arms supplies to UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]. James Jonah was speaking to newsmen at Luanda International Airport at the end of a three-day visit to Angola within the framework of talks aimed at resuming the Special Relief Program for Angola, SPRA.

He said: "We are neither acting under U.S. influence, nor is the United Nations implicated in the supply of arms to UNITA. I categorically deny such reports."

Speaking after a meeting with James Jonah on 21 February, Angolan Planning Minister Franca van Dunem said that under the guise of SPRA, military aid was being given to UNITA.

Jonah did not elaborate on the day that SPRA operations would resume but said it would be soon. He added: "There are some security guarantees given by UNITA."

The Angolan Government suspended SPRA operations on 21 December because UNITA destroyed a bridge in

Vila Branca, on the Lubango- Caluquembe road, in Huila Province. The operations began on 1 December 1990.

#### Savimbi Tours UNITA-Controlled Area 2-19 Feb

MB2502074191 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance  
of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and  
Central Africa 0515 GMT 25 Feb 91

[Text] Comrade President Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi officially toured the liberated land of Angola between 2 and 19 February.

After leaving Jamba, the capital of the liberated territory, Comrade President Dr. Savimbi traveled to Cuemba, in Bie Province. He had direct contacts with the population inhabiting the areas along his route. He held popular rallies and meetings with traditional, religious, military, and [word indistinct] authorities.

#### Addresses Cuemba Rally

MB2602071291 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance  
of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and  
Central Africa 0539 GMT 26 Feb 91

[Speech by Jonas Savimbi, president of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA, at a rally in Cuemba on 13 February—recorded; in vernacular with passage-by-passage translation into Portuguese; carried in the "Information Supplement" program]

[Text] (?Peace to you), dear brothers. First of all, let me greet you all. Today is a beautiful day. It is the day of our arrival here in Cuemba. We are here to talk to you. The MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] has enslaved you for the last 15 years.

However, if we look back, we will see that when the Portuguese were in our country, the movement that fought in Cuemba, Munhango, and everywhere else was UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]. It was not the MPLA.

There were some among you who knew that UNITA was fighting in places such as Boa Esperanca and Chindumba. There were people among you who knew that it was UNITA that fought for this country. [applause]

However, when we began our struggle to force the Portuguese out of our country, our aim was, first of all, to ensure that the Angolan people could live well and that Angolans could (?treat each other) well. It was UNITA that invited the MPLA and the FNLA [Angola National Liberation Front] to unite and talk to the Portuguese colonialists to make them leave our country.

However, the MPLA betrayed the fatherland. It invited in the Cubans and the Soviets to fight UNITA. We have heard that Eduardo dos Santos is beginning to change in Luanda. Why is he changing? Because we, in UNITA,



were strong enough to resist the Cubans and this caused some disorientation within the MPLA. The MPLA no longer knows what to do.

Many UNITA soldiers lost their lives in Cuemba. Why? Because of their love for our people. [applause]

Listen well: Can we say that the country is independent? The Portuguese have left, but look at how we are now. Look at our children and mothers, look at the state of Cuemba. Did it look like this in colonial times?

Lacrau was the name of the commissar who used to be here. He was a commander. What work did he do here? Our question is: What work has the MPLA done here in Cuemba? Where are the schools, hospitals, the clothing, and the food? Is this an independent country? The country is not independent yet.

UNITA carries the voice that will liberate the Angolan people. Everything the MPLA has said is a lie. The MPLA is a slave of the Cubans and Soviets. You have been told that UNITA is led by the South Africans. Where do you see the South Africans here? Everyone attending this rally in an Angolan citizen. Is this not true?

However, the MPLA leadership does not say anything without Cuban and Soviet approval. The Soviets and the Cubans have to be around.

Our symbol has been the black cockerel ever since we fought our first liberation war against Portuguese colonialism. This is true, right? You know the symbol of the black cockerel very well.

We are in Jamba [words indistinct] the war. We are talking in a new language. We must begin talking the language of our black cockerel of long ago.

The MPLA has taught you things that have nothing to do with Angola. They may have something to do with Cuba, the Soviet Union, or Luanda. I do not know. What I am teaching you is guided by the customs and traditions of our land.

Kindly sit down, my friends: The mission of liberating the country is a difficult one. Many African countries have long enjoyed their independence. We ask: Why is there a merciless struggle here in Angola? Why?

The answer is: Angola is a very rich country by comparison with many other countries.

Look back over the past 15 years: The people would not have been in this state, without clothes or housing. If we want to live well, we have to behave sensibly. We know that the country reflects the people. We know the people well. There are many among you who are sensible people. We waged our first war with men and women.

## Mozambique

### Opposition Group Holds News Conference in Maputo

MB2202190491 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese  
1745 GMT 22 Feb 91

[Text] Multipartyism took its first step in Maputo this afternoon. The Liberal and Democratic Party of Mozambique, Palmo, today held a well-attended news conference to present its political manifesto, which reflected many contradictions and a lack of definition.

Galiza Matos reports:

[Begin Matos recording] Palmo is the name of an association that wants to become an opposition political party to contest Mozambique's first multiparty elections.

Represented by three founding members, Palmo held a news conference with national and international journalists in Maputo this afternoon to present its political program.

At the news conference, the three members of the so-called Palmo association stated that, in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Mozambique, their newly formed political organization wants to hold its first congress in Beira City, in central Mozambique, between 19 and 23 March. This is the first step the association must take to legally become a political party with a recognized legal standing.

The three Palmo founding members said the news conference was being held under the terms of the Mozambican Constitution, which grants all Mozambicans the right to organize political associations and to publicly express their political beliefs.

A document read at the news conference states, quote, Palmo is a political organization formed by Mozambicans without distinctions based on sex, ethnic or racial origins, religious beliefs, or place of residence, unquote.

The journalists who attended the news conference were especially curious about a very specific issue: The racist nature that had characterized Palmo's first political program, which was made public at the end of last year. That document, said Palmo, was against what it perceived as economic domination of the country by Indians, whites, and coloreds. It stated that, as a political party, Palmo would be committed to fighting that situation.

The document made public at Maputo's Cardoso Hotel this afternoon says that Palmo also defines as one of its aims, quote, the elimination of consciously instituted regional and racial domination in the political, economic, social, and cultural life of Mozambique as well as other divisionist tendencies in the country, unquote.

The document also states that Palmo is an antiregionalist, antitribalist, and antiracist organization. As I pointed out above, racism was the main item at the news conference.

In reply to journalists' questions concerning Palmo's first political program on who should hold political and economic power in the country, Palmo defined as original Mozambicans all black Mozambicans. The news conference was also told that more precise definitions will be adopted at the Palmo congress to be held in Beira. That meeting will also issue other directives that will guide the work of Palmo as a future political party.

One of the Palmo members said, quote, we are a child taking its first steps, unquote.

Asked whether Palmo had already begun contacts with political parties in other countries, the three founding members said, quote, we have contacts with several European parties, including the Social Liberal Party of Denmark [name as heard]. One of the Palmo officials denied his organization had requested financial support from the U.S. Government through its embassy in Maputo.

Those attending the conference also learned that Palmo currently has some 15,000 supporters from every race residing mainly in southern Maputo and Gaza Provinces.

The Palmo officials said their association does not reject the Mozambican Constitution because it opens the door to a multiparty political system. However, Palmo expressed its disagreement with certain aspects, notably its belief that the Constitution had been drawn up by the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] Party. [end recording]

### **Renamo Attacks Train Along Limpopo Railroad**

*MB2502183091 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1730 GMT 25 Feb 91*

[Text] The Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] armed bandits today carried out another attack on a train carrying a Southern Mozambique Railroads [CFM-Sul] maintenance team at kilometer 143 along the Limpopo railroad, 18 km from Magude Station. The attack took place at 1700 [1500 GMT] when the train was on its way to Magude from Chokwe.

According to CFM-Sul Executive Director Engineer Joao Azinheira, there were no human or material losses due to the quick response by escorting troops. There was no derailment and the train was able to reach its destination.

### **Reunion**

#### **Riots Erupt at 'Forbidden Demonstration'**

*EA2502193091 Mayotte Radio France Overseas in French 1600 GMT 25 Feb 91*

[Text] For the past 48 hours, Reunion Island has been going through a particularly difficult period, as riots erupted on Saturday afternoon during a forbidden demonstration. The demonstration was in favor of Tele-Freedom, a pirate television station that has been broadcasting for five years on the island. But the demonstration [words indistinct] deteriorated very rapidly. Clashes between security forces and demonstrators resulted in several people wounded [passage indistinct]

#### **Over 60 Injured**

*AB2502212891 Paris AFP in English 2029 GMT 25 Feb 91*

[Text] Saint-Denis, Reunion, Feb 25 (AFP)—Police and demonstrators clashed again Monday on this French-ruled Indian Ocean island following a decision by the authorities to raid a pirate television station, Free DOM, correspondents reported.

Security forces using a helicopter hurled tear-gas grenades to try to restore order as crowds approached a local supermarket in the working class Le Chaudron District. In nearby Sainte-Clotilde industrial zone, several shops were looted by youths.

Paris on Monday decided to send 150 gendarmes to help reinforce law and order on the island. One squadron was due to leave late Monday and a second on Tuesday, the gendarmerie's headquarters in Paris said. France has 520 gendarmes permanently based on the island, which is a French overseas department (DOM).

More than 60 people, including 43 police, have been reported injured in clashes which erupted Saturday following the decision to seize the broadcasting facilities of Free-Dom (the initials DOM are for the French for overseas department). Officials said "considerable damage" had been caused by the weekend's violence.

The prefect of the Reunion, a French department, accused the managing director of Tele Free DOM of deliberately inciting the weekend violence and of spreading false rumors to "stir up disorder".

The prefecture of La Reunion was unable early Monday to say how much damage had been caused but said it had been "considerable". The Bank of La Reunion, one of whose branches at Le Chaudron was attacked, said it had suffered damage totalling more than two million francs (400,000 dollars).

**Benin****Five Hundred March To Demand Soglo Resignation***AB2302204091 Paris AFP in English 1602 GMT  
23 Feb 91*

[Text] Cotonou, Feb 23 (AFP)—About five hundred people marched in Cotonou Saturday calling for Prime Minister Nocephore Soglo to resign and for an end to electoral fraud. Police fired tear gas to disperse the crowd after saying the demonstration had not been authorized. No injuries were reported.

The protest was called by eight of 14 candidates standing in presidential elections due on March 10 and 24 who last Wednesday denounced "grotesque irregularities" in the February 17 general elections.

The demonstration came on the first day of the presidential campaign, which is to end on March 9. President Mathieu Kerekou and Mr. Soglo are running in the presidential race.

**Liberia****Further Reportage on Freetown Peace Talks****NPFL Delegate Interviewed***AB2102191291 London BBC World Service in English  
1709 GMT 21 Feb 91*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Well a lot is still left to be cleared up after the meeting in Lome last week on the Liberian cease-fire. Two of the warring factions, Prince Johnson's rebels and the Patriotic Front of Charles Taylor, have been having talks in Freetown, Sierra Leone. They are apparently discussing their positions in preparation for next month's political conference of all parties in Monrovia, which was agreed on at the Lome talks. But the third armed faction, General Bowen's Armed Forces of Liberia, are not represented in Freetown. From Freetown, Krista Johnson telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] The meeting is taking place at the Bintumani Conference Hall in Freetown. Rebel leader Prince Johnson is leading his delegation in person, while the National Patriotic Front [NPFL] delegation is being led by their justice spokesman, Mr. Laveli Supuwood.

Before the meeting got under way behind closed doors, I managed to have a brief interview with Mr. Supuwood. I asked him why they were having such a meeting now, and he told me that after the agreement signed by the warring factions in Lome last week, the parties involved decided to sit down and work out some terms of reference and conditions in preparation for the all-Liberian conference in Monrovia next month.

Mr. Supuwood expressed irritation at Interim President Amos Sawyer's declaration last month that warring factions should take places in his interim government. Supuwood rejected the basis of Sawyer's interim government, which was created under ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] auspices in Banjul last year, and he added that it had been agreed at the Bamako meeting last month that it is the warring parties who will form an interim government.

Mr. Supuwood told me, and I quote: We are questioning the process leading to the formulation of Sawyer's interim government and we will not allow that interim government to remain in power. We will not accept it at any cost, unquote.

When asked if the NPFL has been reinforcing its military potential with sophisticated weapons, Mr. Supuwood said, and again I quote: I do not think so as we are discussing peace in good faith, and we are confident that peaceful means will work. In fact, we do not have money to buy weapons. [end recording]

**NPFL Reports 'Some' Progress***AB2102212291 Paris AFP in English 2056 GMT  
21 Feb 91*

[Text] Freetown, Feb 21 (AFP)—One-day consultative talks between Liberia's two warring factions ended Thursday with "some amount of progress," according to National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) delegation leader Laveli Supuwood. The four-hour talks between the NPFL and the rival Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia (INPFL) were designed to produce positions to present to an all-Liberian conference scheduled for March 15 in Monrovia. The next move is for the two factions to bring their proposals to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in another conference already under way in a Freetown hotel.

According to officials who declined to be identified, the warring factions agreed that the all-Liberian conference should be presided over by a prominent Liberian nominated by the warring parties, and that two members should be selected by each of the 13 Liberian counties, two by each of the six Liberian political parties, five by the NPFL, five by the INPFL, and six by interest groups such as churches and businesses.

**ELBC Reports 'Progress'***AB2202172791 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English  
0900 GMT 22 Feb 91*

[Text] Reports from neighboring Sierra Leone speak of progress at (?conservative) talks between the Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia and Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front. Details were not disclosed. The discussions were held as a preliminary to an all-party conference on Liberia in Monrovia on March 15th this year. The talks have now adjourned. It is expected that the former warring factions will now put

their joint proposals to a meeting of the Economic Community of West African States already under way in Freetown.

### **Dogonyaro Warns NPFL Against New Hostilities**

*AB2602122191 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English  
0900 GMT 26 Feb 91*

[Text] A stern warning has been issued to the National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] by the outgoing field commander of the West African intervention force on its plans to launch renewed hostilities in Monrovia. In an exclusive interview with ELBC News yesterday, Major General Joshua Dogonyaro, now at the end of his assignment in Liberia, quoted the (?intelligence) sources as saying that the Charles Taylor-led NPFL plans to embark on renewed violence should the forthcoming all-Liberia conference fail to meet their expectations.

According to the outgoing ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] field commander, Charles Taylor's strategy includes using dissidents from Guinea, Sierra Leone, and The Gambia in his attempt to create confusion in these countries. This strategy, Gen. Dogonyaro pointed out, might lead these countries' pulling out of ECOMOG, thereby the force left with only Ghanaian and Nigerian contingents. Such moves, he warned, would be suicidal to Mr. Taylor and his entire NPFL.

Gen. Dogonyaro admonished Liberians to seek for peace at all cost and stop whoever thinks he is stronger than the entire nation.

## **Niger**

### **Students Hold 'Violent' Demonstrations in Niamey**

*AB2502132891 Dakar PANA in French 1216 GMT  
25 Feb 91*

[Text] Niamey, 25 Feb (ANP-PANA)—A violent demonstration of university and high school students took place today in the streets of Niamey, the Niger capital. The demonstrators, followed by idlers, set fire to government and diplomatic vehicles. They also broke windows in some shop and public buildings, which they attempted, at certain points, to burn down.

Niamey central market was closed down to avoid looting and vandalism. The small market remained open, however. Security forces took up positions on certain streets of the city to disperse demonstrators. The extent of the damage has not yet been determined, and no reasons have been given for these demonstrations, which broke out under unspecified circumstances.

### **U.S., French Facilities Attacked**

*AB2502144291 Paris AFP in English 1339 GMT  
25 Feb 91*

[Text] Abidjan, Feb 25 (AFP)—About 50 students attacked the American Cultural Center in Niger's capital Niamey with Molotov cocktails and stones Monday, burning one embassy vehicle and damaging two others before riot police stepped in to disperse them, U.S. Embassy Spokeswoman Claudia Anyaso said. Ms. Anyaso, contacted here by telephone, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the building was quickly evacuated and that no one was injured in the attack which took place shortly before 0800 GMT. She could not say if the attack was related to the Gulf war, as the students were not chanting slogans nor carrying placards. "We really don't have a legitimate reason for it (the attack). It just happened," she said.

The students returned to the Cultural Center in downtown Niamey across from the main market about an hour after the initial attack. The U.S. Embassy itself, which lies some distance from the Cultural Center, was not hit. Demonstrators also burned a car at the French Consulate and attacked two stores frequented by expatriates living in Niamey. A French development agency was also hit. At the time of the attack, the Cultural Center was being guarded by two armed policemen provided by the Niger Government and four Embassy guards.

Firefighters were brought in to extinguish fires and riot police arrived to disperse the students and "mobs of onlookers", the spokeswoman said. It was not known if security forces had made any arrests.

Ms. Anyaso, public affairs officer and director of the center, said the capital appeared to have returned to calm by 1230 GMT as reinforced riot police closed off an area near her building, which she said would probably remain closed for the rest of the week.

Last year Niger sent a contingent of 491 soldiers to Saudi Arabia to join the U.S.-led coalition force, which over the weekend launched a ground offensive against entrenched Iraqi troops to force them out of Kuwait. Iraq invaded the oil-rich emirate in August. Some 85 percent of Niger's estimated seven million people are Moslem.

### **Protests Said Against Gulf War**

*AB2502174491 London BBC World Service in English  
1709 GMT 25 Feb 91*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There have been violent protests in Niamey, the capital of Niger, today. Anger is boiling over because of the Gulf conflict. Niger has troops among the coalition forces in Saudi Arabia, but with the coalition's land



offensive now well under way, thousands of demonstrators deliberately targeted U.S. and French official buildings to show their displeasure at government policy. From Niamey, Siraji Kane telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] This morning's march was originally called in protest at restrictions imposed by the government on the anniversary of last year's demonstrations, which led to at least three deaths. But the students quickly turned to other targets. At the French Consulate and at the American Cultural Center, they burned cars.

When I asked students why, they told me that this was in protest at the presence of Niger troops with the multinational force in the Gulf. Students also attacked a bank owned by Saudi Arabian interests, causing damage to the building. And they also attacked cars at the town hall and a supermarket patronized by expatriates. Around the town, I saw burned-out cars and I was told that in several places, women identified as wives of high-ranking officials were forced out of their vehicles, which were then set on fire.

The students dispersed, but this afternoon there was still a heavy police presence on the streets. Today's lunchtime news did not carry any official government response. This afternoon, student leaders were meeting to discuss the situation. Niamey's main market was closed for today because of the demonstrations. [end recording]

### **Schools Ordered Closed**

*AB2602130891 Niamey Domestic Service in French  
1200 GMT 26 Feb 91*

[Text] We open this newscast with a government communiqué:

The Council of Ministers met today, 26 February 1991, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Brigadier Ali Saibou, president of the Republic and chairman of the Council of Ministers. The Council examined the situation in schools in the light of yesterday's events. In the face of acts of vandalism by high school and university students, who caused extensive damage to public and private property, the Council of Ministers made the following decisions: the immediate closure until further notice of the university and high schools of Niamey; the total evacuation of the university campus by this evening at 2000.

### **Warning Against Further Vandalism**

*AB2602140291 Niamey Domestic Service in French  
1200 GMT 26 Feb 91*

[Station commentary]

[Text] In the face of the reprehensible acts that we all experienced yesterday, and to which the government has brought the solution that you have just heard, no

Nigerois can remain unconcerned and indifferent. Niger, a law-abiding state, does not want such acts of vandalism, says Oumar Diallo:

[Diallo] Fellow university and high school students, what were you seeking to prove with your vandalistic behavior? Do you believe it is your right to turn your almighty power into law? Well, you are wrong. You are wrong in all aspects, and you have only succeeded in proving your weakness in the face of law.

Once again, we repeat that Niger is a country where the rule of law prevails, and all demands should be made in accordance with the Constitution. You forgot this elementary fact, however, preferring to behave like outlaws, blindly burning down and ransacking properties of citizens or foreigners who have come to participate in the development of our country. You should not forget that as far as the government is concerned, it is prepared to assume its full responsibilities, as it has always done, in the face of savagery and disregard of legal provisions. Democracy is not synonymous with barbarism, and anybody who forgets this or pretends to forget this will be dealt with in accordance with the full rigors of the law. This is the right moment to remind all Niger citizens concerned with the progress of our country that they are all responsible and should never turn a blind eye to the violence that some people are trying to use as a means of making demands.

We strongly condemn this violence and dare to hope that all these troublemakers will, henceforth, be put in their proper place. It is only at this cost that Niger will become the genuine democratic country its leaders are so ardently aspiring to build.

## **Nigeria**

### **'Wave of Looting' in Central Lagos**

*AB2602073291 Paris AFP in English 1722 GMT  
25 Feb 91*

[Text] Lagos, Feb 25 (AFP)—Armed riot police were deployed in central Lagos Monday after a wave of looting followed the demolition Sunday of illegal shops and kiosks by government forces. Goods worth millions of naira (eight naira to one U.S. dollar at the official rate) were reported looted.

Witnesses said looters made off with electronic goods, computers, air conditioners, shoes, clothes and other valuables. One of the buildings ransacked was the government-owned 12-storey LSDPC House, which houses the 'Eko International bank'. Looters forced the bank door, smashed windows and stole computers and air-conditioners, witnesses said.

Government officials said the shops at 'Oluwole market' were bulldozed down because they contravened Lagos state environmental laws and caused traffic bottlenecks in the area. The market was alleged to be focal point for drug dealers and criminals.



**END OF**

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28 Feb 1991

